

International Film Fest 2018

Eminent Film Directors Mr. Lijo Jose Pellissery and Mr. NalanKumarasamy and noted Film Editor Mr. Sreekar Prasad inaugurated International Film Fest 2018 at the ViscomPreview Theatre, Loyola College on 20th February 2018.

DAY 1

The highlight of the day was actor Mr. Vijay Sethupathi's inauguration of Mr. ArunMozhi's play titled 'Thanneer', based on an adaptation of Asokamithran's novel of the same name. In his speech he said, "Observation is the greatest lesson for everyone associated with the film industry."

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guests spoke about the importance of this four-day film festival, which is organized by Loyola Institute of Vocational Education (LIVE) in association with PoovulaginNanbargal. This film festival is one among the many events planned to celebrate 20 years of LIVE's existence. Rev. Fr. A.M. Jayapathy Francis S.J., Rector and Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier S.J., Principal of Loyola College, and Ms. KavithaMuralitharan of PoovulaginNanbargal offered felicitations.

Earlier Prof. Maria Roy Felix, Coordinator, LIVE, welcomed the gathering. Mr. G. Rajaram of PoovulaginNanbargal proposed a vote of thanks.

The screening of the Australian film Rabbit-Proof Fence marked the beginning of the eagerly awaited theme-based film festival. The second film screened was Jalal's Story (Bangladesh). This was followed by an interaction with Director Mr.AbuShahedEmon moderated byMr.RajaramofPoovulaginNanbargal.

Two documentaries 'YarukkagaSingara Chennai?' and 'Journey With The River Cauvery' were screened.

DAY 2

'When the Woods Bloomed', a Malayalam film by one of India's renowned directors Dr. BijuDamodaran, was screened. This was followed by an interaction with the director moderated by Prof. M. Sivakumar, in which the audience shared their views and asked questions. The next film screened was the Tibetan film 'Mountain Patrol'.

The short film 'Unlock' directed by Mr. NirmalanNadaraja made an emotional connect with the audience. Mr. Nadaraja is recipient of several international awards and he spoke about the Srilankan context in his interaction with the audience. He said that the horrors of war cannot be imagined. He thanked the audience for empathising with the characters in his film.He also touched upon the genocide in Srilanka.

In the post lunch session, the Hollywood film 'The Impossible' was screened. The movie revolved around a family hit by the tsunami when they had gone on a trip to Thailand. The movie made a mark across the world for capturing the devastating effects of tsunami.

Speaking about the remarkable aspects of the film, writer-director AjayanBala called to attention some key moments in the movie. To a question why there is a lack of such realistic films in the country, he said that there was hardly any reading culture and there was a need to educate the audience to appreciate such films. He hoped that realistic films would be made in the near future and urged filmmakers to move in that direction.

DAY 3

The Dammed Rain, a Marathi film by eminent filmmaker Mr. SatheshManwar, was screened. In the interaction that followed, moderated by Mr. MathiazhaganSubiah, Mr. SatheshManwar shared his field experiences and the problems that farmers faced in the Vidarbha region.

After noon, the animation film 'The Lorax', the Manipuri film 'Lady of the Lake' and the Bolivian film 'Even the Rain' were screened. The journalists Mr. Vijay Anand and Mr. R.C. Jayanthan spoke to the audience after the screening.

DAY 4

The last day of the film festival began with the screening of the Tamil film 'MerkuThodarchiMalai' ('Western Ghats'). This was followed by an interaction with its Director Mr. Lenin Bharathi, Cinematographer Mr. TheniEswar Co-Director & Costume Designer Mr. S.R. Rajmohan. The director said that the film was shot three years after extensive field research in the Western Ghats.

The last film screened was 'Turtles Can Fly'. Some short films made by Loyola students titled 'Velaan', 'My Name Is Sita', 'Aneedhi' and 'Thodarkathai', selected by LIVE Director Mr. ArunKannan, were screened.

This was followed by the valedictory function. Ms. ShobanaGezia, Coordinator, Loyola Institute of Vocational Education welcomed the gathering. Film Directors Mr. Mysskin and Mr. S.P. Jananathan and the guest of honor Cinematographer Mr. P.C. Sreeram spoke about the festival and shared their views.

Mr. Mani Sridhar of JAEL Studios proposed a vote of thanks.